

EASTERN RANGE EXTENSION OF FORREST'S MOUSE (*LEGGADINA FORRESTI*). *Memoirs of the Queensland Museum* 42(2): 386. 1998:- Forrest's Mouse (*Leggadina forresti*) is generally restricted to arid inland areas of Australia (Reid & Morton, 1995; Watts & Aslin, 1981). Specimen records from the Queensland Museum mammal database indicate that the eastern-most registration of *L. forresti* is from 'Hillgrove' (19°38'S 145°43'E). Regurgitated owl pellets collected from Mt Castor (23°30'25"S 147°01'51"E), Gemini NP in central Qld during 1995 extended the eastern range of the species by approximately 210km. Here, we report the capture of two specimens of *L. forresti* from properties near Rolleston (24°28'00"S 148°37'30"E), approximately 250km SE of Mt Castor and 300km E of 'Hillgrove', where previous records of the species have been collected.

During April, 1997 fauna surveys were completed in the forests and woodlands surrounding Rolleston, central Queensland. Two specimens of *L. forresti* were captured in two separate tracts of open forest, dominated by *Eucalyptus coolabah*. Both specimens were captured in pitfall traps that consisted of three, 20-litre buckets, spaced 5m apart, set so that the lip of each bucket was flush with the ground. A 20m-long drift fence was erected dissecting the mouth of each bucket. A total of 96 pitfall trap-nights were undertaken during the fauna survey of the area.

One ♂ *L. forresti* was captured on 'Sirius' (24°25'25"S 148°36'30"E) and one ♀ (QMJM11585) approximately 6.5km to the SE on 'Hillview' (24°28'40"S 148°38'10"E). Both areas were of riparian vegetation along Comet R. The soils at the sites were cracking clay alluvials. Other mammals

recorded during the survey mostly reflect eastern assemblages. They included: *Planigale ingrami* (coolibah forest, 'Venus Downs'); *Macropus parryi* (edge of grassland and coolibah forest, 'Venus Downs'); *Melomys burtoni* (semi-deciduous vine forest, 'The Lake'); *Canis lupus dingo* (grassland, 'The Lake'); *Sminthopsis macroura* and *S. murina* (coolibah forest, 'Hillview'); *Pseudomys delicatulus* (silver-leaved ironbark woodland, 'The Crescent'); *Chalinolobus picatus* and *C. nigrogriseus* (creek in brigalow forest, 'The Crescent'); *Mus musculus*, *Nyctophilus geoffroyi*, *N. gouldi*, *Scotorepens greyii*, *Saccolaimus flaviventris*, *Mormopterus beccarii*, *Nyctinomus australis*, *Macropus giganteus* and *Trichosurus vulpecula* (throughout study area); *Petauroides volans* (riparian zone along the Comet R., 'The Lake'); *Tachyglossus aculeatus* (coolibah forest, 'Blockadirt').

Acknowledgements

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Literature cited

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